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MEDICAL EXAMINER REPORT

MABEL E. AUSTIN
7709 BECKETT LANE
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78749

ME-04-2309

The postmortem examination was performed by Vladimir M. Parungao, M.D., Deputy Medical Examiner, at the request and authorization of Roberto J. Bayardo, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, beginning at 11:45 a.m. on 12/24/2004, at the Travis County Forensic Science Center and in the presence of James F. Bixler, crime scene unit of Austin Police Department.

HISTORY:
On 12/25/2004, at approximately 6:30 a.m., decedent was found unresponsive in parking lot. EMS arrived and transported to South Austin Medical Center. Decedent declined and was pronounced dead at 8:45 a.m., on 12/25/2004, by Dr. Kimbrough.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:
The body was that of a 91 year-old white female who appeared slightly younger than the stated age. The body measured 62-1/2 inches in length and weighed 91-1/2 pounds, was well developed and poorly nourished in appearance. There was beginning postmortem rigidity in the jaw area and beginning unfixed postmortem lividity posteriorly. The head was normocephalic with a normal amount of gray hair measuring 5 inches in length. The pupils were symmetrical in size and in shape. The irides were hazel/brown. The corneae showed beginning arcus senilis. The conjunctivae showed no petechiae. The sclerae were not icteric. The ears and nose were unremarkable. The mouth showed natural teeth. There was a contusion and abrasion on the right side of the face at the cheek. There was also a small laceration on the right eyebrow, surrounded with contusion. The neck was symmetrical and stable with engorgement of the lateral veins. There were several recent needle punctures on the left side. The thorax was symmetrical in shape and contour with unremarkable atrophic breasts bilaterally. The abdomen was slightly scaphoid in shape. The external genitalia were those of a normal adult female, with unremarkable pubic hair in normal distribution. The lower extremities showed contusion with abrasion on both knee, the right was on the lateral side. There were also several focal areas of yellow/green contusion on both legs. There were also focal areas of contusion on the plantar surface of the left foot, along the 1st toe. The upper extremities shows focal areas of contusion involving the right wrist, right elbow, left wrist and left forearm and the dorsal surface of the left hand. Most of these contusions were with brush burn abrasion. There was a contusion on the right shoulder with brush burn abrasion. There was senile purpura on both forearms. There were several irregular scarring on the left arm. There were recent needle punctures on the right cubital and the left wrist, attached to an IV line. There were

no needle marks, no needle tracks or any deformity. The back was unremarkable except for a probable contusion of the right buttock.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION
The body was opened through the usual Y-shaped thoracoabdominal incision. There was scanty amounts of subcutaneous fat and muscle tissue encountered upon dissection that measured 1/2 inch at the level of the umbilicus. There was fracture of the sternum and the right 3rd through 5th ribs, and the left 4th and 5th ribs. After removal of the sternal plate there was no increase in fluid or adhesions in either pleural cavity. The pericardial sac was smooth and glistening and, upon opening there was no increase in fluid or adhesions. The abdominal cavity contained no increase in fluid or adhesions. There was no organ displacement noted. The diaphragmatic domes were normally situated and the appendix was present in the right lower quadrant.

HEART:
The heart weighed 250 grams. The epicardium was smooth and glistening. The epicardial fat was normal in amount and distribution. On sectioning, the right ventricle averaged 1/16 inch in thickness and the left ventricle averaged 1/2 inch in thickness. The myocardium was beefy red in appearance. The endocardium, papillary muscles, chordae tendineae, cusps, and the foramen ovale, were all grossly unremarkable. There was calcification and deformity of the mitral valve. The rest of the valves were grossly unremarkable. Examination of the coronary vessels showed a mild degree of atherosclerosis with atheromatous plaque formation and calcification with segmental narrowing of the lumen up to 50% in some segments. Examination of the aorta showed a severe degree of atherosclerotic changes with atheromatous plaque formation and calcification throughout.

LUNGS:
The lungs together weighed 800 grams. The pleural surfaces were smooth and glistening. The fissures were well demarcated. On sectioning, the parenchyma was slightly edematous and congested. Examination of the tracheobronchial tree showed blood tinge frothy fluid inside the lumen. The pulmonary vessels showed no evidence of thrombi or emboli.

LIVER:
The liver weighed 900 grams. The capsular surface was smooth and glistening. On sectioning, the parenchyma was orange/brown in appearance. The gallbladder was not found.

PANCREAS:
The pancreas was normal in shape and configuration and on section, it was grossly unremarkable.

ADRENALS:
The adrenal glands were unremarkable bilaterally.

SPLEEN:
The spleen weighed 75 grams. The capsule was covered with hyalinized material. On sectioning, the parenchyma was grossly unremarkable.

GENITOURINARY TRACT:
The kidneys together weighed 200 grams. The capsules were thin, easily stripped, exposing a smooth surface. On section, the corticomedullary junctions were well demarcated. The calyces, pelves, ureters, and urinary bladder were grossly unremarkable. The uterus with cervix was not found, the left and right adnexa were found in the pelvic cavity.

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:
The stomach was normal in shape and configuration. The serosal surfaces, muscularis layer, and mucosa were grossly unremarkable. The lumen was empty. The duodenum and the rest of the small and large intestines, including the appendix and esophagus, were grossly unremarkable.

BONES:
There were fractures of the sternum, the right 3rd through 5th ribs and the right 4th and 5th ribs.

NECK:
There was no injury to the soft tissues and muscles surrounding the neck. The thyroid gland, larynx, vocal cords, epiglottis, hyoid bone, and tongue were grossly unremarkable. The cervical vertebrae were intact.

HEAD:
The scalp was incised and reflected. There were 2 focal areas of subgaleal hemorrhage in the right temporal area and the top of the head. The calvarium was intact. There was no subdural or subarachnoid hemorrhage noted. The meninges were smooth and glistening. The gyri and sulci were atrophic. The cerebral hemispheres were symmetrical in shape and contour and the brain weighed 1200 grams. On section, the gray and white matter was well demarcated. The ventricular system, including the choroid plexus, was grossly unremarkable. The cerebellum and the midbrain were grossly unremarkable.

DIAGNOSES:

I. Hypothermia.
II. Coronary artery sclerosis.
III. Alzheimer's Disease, clinical.

MANNER OF DEATH:

It is my opinion, based on the investigation of the circumstances and the autopsy findings that the decedent, MABEL E. AUSTIN, came to her death as a result of hypothermia. Accident.

VLADIMIR M. PARUNGAO, M.D.
Deputy Medical Examiner — DATE SIGNED

ROBERTO J. BAYARDO, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner — DATE SIGNED

VMP/RJB: dm

Office of the Medical Examiner
Travis County

Toxicology Report

Case Number : 04-02309 **Case Type :** ME **Austin, Mabel E.**

Pathologist Dr. Vladimir Parungao **Date Completed** 1/4/2005

Specimen	Substance	Result	Units	Method
VITREOUS PANEL				
Vitreous	Sodium	143	mmol/L	ISE
Vitreous	Potassium	5.2	mmol/L	ISE
Vitreous	Chloride	124	mmol/L	ISE
Vitreous	Urea Nitrogen	20.2	mg/dL	UV/VIS Spectroscopy
Vitreous	Glucose	87	mg/dL	UV/VIS Spectroscopy
Vitreous	Creatinine	0.6	mg/dL	UV/VIS Spectroscopy
IMMUNOASSAY				
Urine	Amphetamine	ND		EIA
Urine	Barbiturate	ND		EIA
Urine	Benzodiazepine	ND		EIA
Urine	Cannabinoid	ND		EIA
Urine	Cocaine Metabolite	ND		EIA
Urine	Opiate	ND		EIA
Urine	Phencyclidine	ND		EIA
ETHANOL/VOLATILES				
Blood, heart		ND		Headspace GC/FID
Vitreous		ND		Headspace GC/FID
ALKALINE DRUGS				
Blood, heart	Atropine	Detected		GC/MS
ACID/NEUTRAL DRUGS				
Blood, heart		ND		GC/MS

ND = None Detected UFA = Unsuitable for Analysis

Comment:

Approved by: